

The regular meeting of the Amherst Town Council was held on April 9, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 186 S. Main Street with Mayor Jacob P. Bailey presiding. Council members present were: Bobby J. Bondurant; Jason Campbell, Haney Mottley; Harold Swisher; and C. Manly Rucker, III. Town Manager Jack Hobbs, Police Chief Kenneth Watts, Director of Public Utilities Tom Fore and Office Manager Colan Davis were also present.

The Rev. Alan Monfils from Blue Ridge Baptist Church gave an invocation.

Mr. Rucker made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mottley to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted "Aye".

Milton Carson and John Stewart from VFW Post 9877 came forward to express concern about the parking meter program and where American flags could be placed on "flag holidays" if the parking meter poles are removed.

Mr. Swisher made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mottley to approve the March 12, 2008 minutes as distributed earlier. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted "Aye".

It was reported that the Planning Commission had recommended that the Town Council approve an amendment to the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance that would implement access management regulations for the Ambriar area as envisioned in the Comprehensive Plan. By consensus the Council agreed to hold a public hearing on the proposal at the May meeting.

By consensus, a budget workshop was scheduled for April 14, 2008 at 5:30 P.M.

After some discussion about the Town's construction program for the 2008 construction season, Mr. Campbell made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mottley to authorize the following:

1. A project to replace the water main along S. Main Street
2. A project to replace the water plant entrance
3. A project to install security fencing around the 60 East sewer pump station
4. Acceptance of accept the Town Engineer's proposal for design work associated with the replacement of a series of sewer pipes

The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted "Aye".

Mr. Rucker made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Swisher to authorize the sale of surplus items to the highest bidder for each item. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted "Aye".

The Council reviewed a list of upcoming committee vacancies.

Mr. Rucker made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bondurant to appoint Jacob P. Bailey to the Industrial Development Authority for a July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2012 term. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted “Aye”.

Mr. Rucker made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bondurant appoint Richard Wydner to the Planning Commission as the Town Council’s representative for the July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2012 term. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted “Aye”.

Chief Watts gave a status report on the Town Hall renovation project. Mr. Campbell made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mottley to authorize the renovation of the furnace room. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted “Aye”.

Mr. Campbell made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Swisher to install a sign identifying the Town on the top front of the building with the cost not to exceed \$962. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Campbell, Mottley, Swisher and Rucker voted “Aye”.

The Council reviewed a proposal regarding the formation of a Centennial Committee and a recommendation that the Council start a discussion about how the 100th anniversary of the Town’s April 15, 1910 “birthday”. No action was taken.

The Town Manager gave a report on the proposed FY09 budget. The Council agreed to hold the required public hearing at the May 14th Council meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

Jacob P. Bailey
Mayor

Attest:

Clerk of Council